

that claim 45 would be allowable if non-substantively amended to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 44 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 45 in accordance with the indication of allowability by the Examiner, and claim 45 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. All pending claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance, so withdrawal of the rejection of claim 45 is respectfully requested.

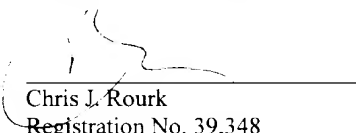
### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and for various other reasons readily apparent, Applicants submit that all of the claims now present are allowable, and withdrawal of the rejections and a Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited.

If any impediment to the allowance of the claims remains after consideration of this amendment, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (214) 969-4669 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

No additional fee is believed to be required with this response. If any applicable fee or refund has been overlooked, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or credit any refund to the deposit account of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P., No. 01-0657.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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### VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

44. **(AMENDED)** A method of combining the amplified outputs of a plurality of push-pull amplifiers to form a power amplifier, each push-pull amplifier having two inductively-interconnected gain blocks, comprising:

(a) configuring the plurality of amplifiers to form a first closed loop such that adjacent gain blocks of adjacent amplifiers are interconnected and as so interconnected, form virtual ac grounds; **[and]**

(b) driving adjacent gain blocks of adjacent push-pull amplifiers with at least substantially equal and opposite input signals; **and**

**combining the output power of the push-pull amplifiers in the first closed loop in a secondary coil that is located in proximity with and magnetically coupled to the first closed loop.**

**Claim 45 is hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.**